POISON IVY™

7

WILSON
ILHAN
PRIANTO

SHILL
BABY
SHILL

IVY
ELL
OUT!

AGES 13+
DCCOMICS.COM

THE DARK KNIGHT VS. HELL'S ELITE SOLDIER

BATMAN SPAWN

WRITTEN BY
TODD McFARLANE

ART BY
GREG CAPULLO & TODD McFARLANE

A BLOCKBUSTER PRESTIGE FORMAT ONE-SHOT

DECEMBER

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People think they **know** what the **bad guys** look like.

Your generic **cartoon villains.** Your grotesque **monsters** from **horror films.**

Some people think they're **smart** enough to see **past** the **stereotypes.**

They **know** that the **worst evils** can hide behind the **glossiest exteriors.**

BEATRICE CRAWLEY

That **success** and **prosperity** can obscure **exploitation** and **greed.**

But there are **other** kinds of evil that are **harder** to **spot.**

Evil that **convinces** you it's working for the **greater good.**

Evil that **sells** you **solutions** to the very **problems** it **caused.**

YES, MY LOVE. I'M ***HERE.***

LET'S GO ***SAVE*** THE ***WORLD.***

Evil that **bullies** you into thinking you're **required** to **support** it.

Those are the bad guys you have to **watch out** for, even if you **think** you're **hard** to **fool.**

I should know. I **am** a **bad guy.**

And as **painful** as it is to **admit...**

... sometimes even **I** get caught **off guard.**

HI THERE. ARE YOU THE ***NEW PERSON?*** JEN SOME-THING?

IT'S ***PAM,*** ACTUALLY.

BUT YEAH, THAT'S ***ME.*** THE ***NEW PERSON.***

DC COMICS PRESENTS:

POISON IVY

CHAPTER SEVEN.

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GREAT. YOU CAN START BY *PRUNING* THOSE *SHRUBS* BACK THERE.

BUT BE *CAREFUL.* *Ms. CRAWLEY* DOESN'T LIKE *MISTAKES.*

DON'T WORRY.

SPACK

YOUR TREES ARE *SAFE* WITH *ME.*

Looking **back,** *I went into the whole* **FutureGas** *project just a little* **over-confident.**

WELCOME TO PARSON, MONTANA
Home of FutureGas™
EARLIER THAT DAY.
I'd just defeated my worst enemy. My creator.
Then, I digested him.
I was feeling mildly invincible.
SKREE
Which, you know, might have led me to take a few risks.
FutureGas is a fracking company based in eastern Montana.
They're trying to greenwash petroleum-based fuels with a new extraction technology. And give it a gloss of girl power with a CEO who's also a mother of three.
I thought I could dismantle the whole thing in a week.

I wasn't counting on any **surprises.**

Stupid, right?

PAM

What is **life** if not a bunch of **great plans** gone **horribly sideways?**

WHAT IS GOING **ON** IN HERE--

What can I say.

Sometimes you bite off **more** than you can **chew.**

Huh?!

So to speak.

...Oh.

I feel a **twitch** under my skin.

This place isn't just **polluted.** It's **terraformed.** In a very **familiar** way.

THIS PLACE... THESE *PLANTS*...

...IT ALL FEELS... LIKE *ME*.

MAK

UGH!

AHHH

I was right. The **goop** inside that **tower**...

...was full of **lamia spores**.

ANOTHER ONE OF *YOU*--

--HOW ARE YOU STILL *ALIVE*--

--IF WOODRUE IS *DEAD*?!

Needless to say, I don't hang around to hear the **answer**.

STOMP STOMP

URR?

HKKK

I feel the little **roots** and **seedlings** lying **dormant** beneath the **ground.**

I reach for the **Green.** For so long, it has **resisted** my call. But **now,** I feel something **give...**

SWAK

AAIIEE

WHERE THE HELL DID *YOU* COME FROM?

PAM

I NEVER EXPECTED TO SEE YOU *WEIRDOS* AGAIN AFTER I KILLED *WOODRUE*...

I *ASSUMED* HE WAS COOKING YOU UP IN HIS--

FutureGas

--lab.

FutureGas.

Was this an employee?

How did they end up as a monster?

AHH!

A monster I've seen before?*

*back in POISON IVY #4! --Arianna

A monster made by a man I killed?

FutureGas

THIS... THIS CAN'T BE REAL.

I came here to punish a super-polluter.

HEY! YOU ALIVE IN THERE?!

But there are mysteries here I didn't anticipate.

WE HEARD *NOISES!*

WAS IT ANOTHER ONE OF THOSE *CREATURES?*

YOU MEAN YOU'VE SEEN *MORE* OF THESE THINGS AROUND HERE?

MORE? WE SEE 'EM WANDERING THROUGH *TOWN* AT LEAST *ONCE* A *WEEK!*

I HAD A *BAD FEELING* ABOUT THAT *SLIME...*

EVER SINCE *FUTUREGAS* STARTED PUTTING UP ALL THIS NEW EXTRACTION EQUIPMENT.

YOU'LL'VE SEEN WHAT IT'S DONE TO OUR *CROPS.*

AND IT'S *NOT* JUST THE *CROPS.*

NOT EVEN THE *WORST* CHEMICAL COCKTAIL KNOWN TO *FRACKING* SHOULD DO *THAT.* SOMETHING'S *WRONG...*

YOU'RE TELLING *ME.*

This thing looks like it was *ripped* to *shreds* by a *wild animal...*

...WHAT DID YOU *DO* TO IT?

I JUST... GAVE IT A LITTLE TASTE OF ITS *OWN MEDICINE.*

YOU IN *MARTIAL ARTS* OR SOME-THING?

I'M IN *LANDSCAPING.*

What **happened** to the person who became that **monster?**

Did that **slime** that **FutureGas** is using **kill** them? Or was it something **else?**

LISTEN, YOU'RE ***NEW*** HERE-- WE'D APPRECIATE IT IF YOU DIDN'T ***SAY*** ANYTHING.

WHY?

BEFORE ***FUTUREGAS*** SHOWED UP, WE HAD ***NOTHING***-- NOW WE HAVE ***MEDICAL*** INSURANCE, ***LIFE*** INSURANCE-- THEY'RE THE ***BIGGEST EMPLOYER*** IN TOWN--

Either way, my day just got a **lot** more **complicated.**

YOU WANT TO ***PROTECT*** FUTUREGAS? WHEN IT'S CLEARLY ***INFECTED*** YOUR ***FIELDS*** WITH THAT... ***WEIRD*** GOO?

THE CEO ***SWEARS*** IT'S ***TEMPORARY.***

AND ***MUCH*** LESS HARMFUL THAN THE STUFF THE ***OTHER*** FRACKING COMPANIES USE. ***GREENER.*** MORE ***NATURAL.***

WE'VE ALL GOT ***FAMILIES.*** WE ***NEED*** THESE JOBS.

We're **all** so used to getting **nothing...**

I ***SEE.***

...that we're **willing** to sacrifice **everything** just for a shot at the **bare minimum.**

IT'S NOT RIGHT.

WHATEVER IS CAUSING YOUR CROPS TO MUTATE COULD BE DOING THE SAME THING TO YOU.

YOU THINK IT'S GONNA TURN US ALL INTO MONSTERS LIKE THAT THING?

Do I tell them?

That I've seen these things before?

Do I tell them what I'm beginning to suspect?

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

I'M GOING TO APPLY FOR A JOB.

FUTUREGAS HEADQUARTERS. NOW.

I need more information.

I need to get inside.

CAN I HELP YOU?

WE'VE BEEN PRUNING ALL THE FLOWERS IN THE GARDENS OUTSIDE.

I THOUGHT Ms. CRAWLEY WOULD APPRECIATE THESE.

KISSING UP ON YOUR FIRST DAY?

HAVE IT YOUR WAY. FIFTH FLOOR. THE ELEVATORS ARE THERE.

THANK YOU.

He doesn't look at me and see **chaos.**

That's the **beauty** of hiding in **plain sight.** Of **resembling** your **enemies.**

I can move among them **unnoticed.**

Like **nightshade** winding its way through a field of **flowers.**

I can bring the **rot** to where they **live.**

I'm not even **sure** what I'm **looking** for.

Something, **anything** that will tell me what's **going on** here.

...A CROSS-SECTION OF A *MUSHROOM* STIPE?

BEAUTIFUL, ISN'T IT?

THE *GENESIS* OF OUR *PROPRIETARY* FORMULA.

FUNGI DO *SO MUCH*-- THE UNDER-APPRECIATED *WORKHORSES* OF THE NATURAL WORLD.

THEY BREAK DOWN *DEAD MATTER,* ENRICH THE *SOIL*...

...AND *NOW,* UNLOCK PREVIOUSLY *UNREACHABLE* STORES OF *ENERGY.*

I DIDN'T MEAN TO *PRY.*

OF *COURSE.*

YOU'RE JUST THE *HELP.*

She knows something.

But what? And how?

IT'S NICE TO KNOW WE'RE EMPLOYING PEOPLE WHO APPRECIATE OUR MISSION.

EVEN AS PART OF THE GROUNDS-KEEPING STAFF.

LOOK, I'M SORRY I CAME IN HERE WITHOUT PERMISSION.

I WAS JUST DROPPING OFF SOME FLOWERS.

YOU WERE SPYING.

I HAD TO BUILD ALL THIS MYSELF, YOU KNOW.

CONVINCE THE INVESTORS. REFINE THE TECHNOLOGY. BREAK INTO THE BOYS' CLUB.

I SAVED A *DYING TOWN.*

I PIONEERED A NEW, *ORGANIC* METHOD OF *OIL AND GAS EXTRACTION.*

AND WHAT DO I GET FOR MY *TROUBLE?*

SABOTAGE.

LOOK, IF YOU THINK I'M SOME KIND OF CORPORATE SPY FROM A RIVAL COMPANY OR SOMETHING--

Oh, I KNOW *EXACTLY* WHAT YOU ARE...

...POISON IVY.

It's at this point that I think, to hell with it, and hit the ***panic button.***

Hnngh!

Ugh!

THNK

S-stop--

WHO **ARE** YOU? HOW DID YOU **DEVELOP** WHATEVER YOU'RE USING OUT IN THOSE **FIELDS?**

HOW DO YOU KNOW WHO I **AM?**

YOU DON'T **REMEMBER** ME, DO YOU?

WELL. IT WAS A **LONG** TIME AGO. AND I WAS STILL USING MY **MAIDEN NAME.**

MAYBE THIS WILL JOG YOUR **MEMORY.**

UGH!

For a **second,** I can't tell what just **happened.**

Then, all of a sudden, I **feel** it.

I WAS A FEW YEARS **OLDER** THAN YOU WERE. A NEWLY MINTED ***ASSISTANT PROFESSOR.***

I THOUGHT THE ***WORLD*** OF ***JASON WOODRUE*** TOO, YOU KNOW. YOU WEREN'T THE ***ONLY*** ONE.

That **gas,** or **whatever** it was, has **neutralized** my **powers.**

HHRRKK

And **without** my powers, I can't **fight off** the Ophiocordyceps lamia spores **coursing** through my **body.**

Darkness closes in.

WE'RE ***CUTTINGS*** FROM THE SAME ***TREE,*** YOU AND I.

BUT I LEARNED A FEW LESSONS YOU ***DIDN'T.***

I am somewhere **else.**
I am some**thing** else.

All I can do is wait for a **miracle.**

Ms. CRAWLEY? IT'S **JANET,** FROM HR? I HAVE THOSE **REPORTS** YOU ASKED FO--

!?

Or at least, for a **twist of fate.**

AAAAAH!

NEXT: AN OUT-OF-BODY EXPERIENCE!

JOINING THE JUSTICE LEAGUE IS EVERY HERO'S DREAM. UNTIL IT'S A NIGHTMARE.

DANGER STREET

TM & © DC

Written by
TOM KING

Art by
JORGE FORNÉS

DC BLACK LABEL

December

12 issues from the creative team of *Rorschach*

AGES 17+

DC NATION SPOTLIGHT ON

BATMAN SPAWN

DON'T MISS THE *BATMAN/SPAWN* PRESTIGE FORMAT ONE-SHOT ON SALE THIS DECEMBER!

INTERVIEW WITH
GREG CAPULLO

Two comics icons meet once again in *Batman/Spawn*, a Prestige format one-shot by legendary Spawn creator Todd McFarlane and superstar Batman artist Greg Capullo.

What's exciting about Batman and Spawn coming together once again?

It's about a good time! It's about making a comic book that people wait and long for. These are the milestone events that people look forward to. If you want to know what *Batman/Spawn* is about... it's about bombastic bombardment of fun!

Why is this exciting for longtime fans as well as new readers—or fans who have been away from comics?

I've seen comments on the art I've been teasing online. People have been saying, "This is making me feel like a teenager again," and it does. It's that sense of nostalgia, and when you see something that brings you back, you want to go on that ride. That's what *Batman/Spawn* is. For the newcomers it's also going to be something really cool, and it'll become theirs. So it's a win-win on both sides of the fence.

What's it like collaborating with Todd McFarlane again?

For me, the best times I've had working in comics have been with Todd McFarlane. Working with him again is like putting on comfortable shoes that have already been broken in. We're doing exactly what we used to do in the same way we used to do it. Also working with Todd, who's a fellow artist, he understands the mechanics of it all and what will and won't work. I'm loving every minute of it.

Do you have a favorite page from the one-shot?

There are plenty of them. The most recent one for me is the first dramatic shot of our two main characters. It's a double-page spread with Spawn and his chains and Batman with his batarang. So far that's the one that really sums up the Batman-Spawn crossover.

What do you want people to walk away from this comic thinking?

I want people to say, "Man, comics are a blast!" When I was a kid and discovered my first spinner rack and saw all the colors and heroes...the allure that captivated me and drew me in was unescapable. When fans grab this, that's what I want them to feel.

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SON OF ULTRON

"THIS FAN... THIS MONSTER!"